

2010 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 24 – Apr 11	The British Are Coming! Exhibit – UK Art Museum
February 12	Deadline to submit artwork for Young Artists Competition
February 19	Art Reception – Central Bank Galleries
Feb 19 – Mar 12	Sister Cities High School Art Exhibit – Central Bank Galleries
February 25	One World Films – “Departures” Kentucky Theatre (Japanese with Subtitles)
February 25	JASK 6:01 Club – DoubleTree Suites
March 13	St. Patrick’s Day Parade & Festival – Downtown
March 23	Robert Tincher: Paddy’s Green Shamrock Shores – Lex Public Library –Tates Creek
March 25 – 30	Shinhidaka students and city officials visit Lexington
April 2 – 23	Keeneland Thoroughbred Racing
April 17-18	Georgetown International Kite and Culture Festival
April 22 – 25	Rolex Three-Day Event – Kentucky Horse Park
May 8 – 9	Mayfest Arts Fair – Gratz Park
June - August	Student Exchange Programs
July 3	Fourth of July Festival – Downtown
July 14	Bastille Day
July 29 – 31	Sister Cities International Conference – Albuquerque, NM
Aug 6 – 15	Million Dollar Hole-In-One Contest
August 17	Finals – Million Dollar Hole-In-One Contest
August 21	Japan Festival – Jacobson Park
Aug TBD	Picnic with the Pops
Aug. 27–Sept. 6	Sister Cities Tour to France
Sept 13	Applications for Student/Teacher Exchange Programs mailed to schools
Sept 14 – 17	Kentucky League of Cities Convention – Louisville, KY
Sept 25–Oct. 10	2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games
TBD	“Halfway to St. Patrick’s Day Celebration” – O’Neill’s Irish Pub
Oct 8 - 30	Keeneland Thoroughbred Racing
Oct TBD	Kentucky Sister Cities State Meeting – Georgetown, KY
Nov 19	Applications due for Student/Teacher Exchange Programs

TRAVEL TO FRANCE

Sister Cities will be sponsoring a tour to France August 27 – September 6 to help celebrate the 150th anniversary of Deauville, located on the golden coast of Normandy. Following the festivities in Deauville, we will travel to magical Paris, one of the world’s most popular tourist destinations. From Paris, we will depart to the Southeast part of France – Provence, the most famous area of Mediterranean France. To receive information on the trip, call the Sister Cities office (859) 258-3137 for a brochure and reservation form. Space is limited.



2010 SISTER CITIES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Albuquerque, New Mexico will host representatives from cities around the world at the annual Sister Cities International Conference July 29 – 31 2010. This is a training and learning conference designed to help sister city leaders strengthen local organizations, and to build and sustain partnerships around the globe. For more information, visit the Sister Cities International website at www.sister-cities.org

UPDATE

Lexington Sister Cities Commission

LEXINGTON AND COUNTY KILDARE CELEBRATE 25TH ANNIVERSARY



In July, a 40-member delegation from Lexington went to County Kildare to celebrate the 25 year relationship of the two communities. When the delegates arrived in Ireland, they were greeted with a reception in the Kildare Council Chamber with remarks from the County Kildare Mayor, County Manager and Lexington Council-At-Large Member Linda Gorton. Over the next four days, the group visited Punchestown Racecourse, Kildangan Stud, the Newbridge Silverware Museum, and Donadea Forest Park. They were also entertained with a 25th anniversary gala dinner at the Keadeen hotel, and enjoyed a musical performance at the Kilcullen Theatre. One of the highlights of the trip was the ceremony of planting an Oak tree at Punchestown Racecourse in memory of the late Michael Osborne of County Kildare and Ed Houlihan of Lexington.

The two men were instrumental in the development of the relationship, and were remembered for their dedicated contribution to the program. After departing County Kildare, the delegation traveled to Belfast, Northern Ireland, where they attended the Sister Cities International annual conference. Before arriving in Belfast, the group made a two day stop in Armagh. During the visit, they toured the St. Patrick’s Cathedrals, the Marble Arch Caves and Florence Court. In addition to attending the conference events in Belfast, they were also able to tour the Glens of Antrim & Giant’s Causeway; Strangford Lough and Downpatrick.

STUDENTS IN LEXINGTON AND DEAUVILLE INTERACT TO LEARN ABOUT THE WEG

In December, a 4th grade class from SCAPA in Lexington and a 4th grade class from Ecole Fracasse in Deauville were able to interact through a video conference to learn more about the World Equestrian Games. Becky Jordan, Kentucky Horse Park Foundation board member, quarter horse breeder, and reining competitor made the presentation to the students about the 2010 Games being held in Lexington. The students were able to introduce themselves and ask questions. The 2014 WEG have been awarded to Normandy, France, where Deauville is located. A follow-up video conference between the two classes was held February 11th.

SISTER CITIES TO PARTICIPATE IN HORSEMANIA

HorseMania is back! LexArts officially kicked off the return of HorseMania to hit the streets before the 2010 Alltech FEI World Equestrian Games. The repeat of the popular horse public art exhibit in 2000 will have a new international feature this time. An artist from each of Lexington’s Sister Cities, Deauville, France; County Kildare, Ireland; Shinhidaka, Japan; and Newmarket, England will come to Lexington to decorate one of the fiberglass horses. The finished horses will be on display in different areas of the city by July 2010. In December, all horses will be auctioned off at Keeneland in its world famous sales pavilion.

KENTUCKY SISTER CITIES MEETING HELD IN MADISONVILLE

Mayor Will Cox welcomed 28 representatives from 11 cities across the state of Kentucky to Madisonville for the annual Kentucky Sister Cities State meeting. Madisonville is located in the Western part of the state, and is a new member of SCI. The 2010 meeting will be held in Georgetown, KY.



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RESULTS OF 2009 MILLION DOLLAR HOLE-IN-ONE CONTEST



Finalists for The Million Dollar prize were Phil Caccamise, Dennis Ridenour, Ed Bibby, Teague Sims, Don DePriest and Craig Smith all of Lexington; Fred Beebe and Carl Hamon of Georgetown; Charles Hoffman of Ft. Thomas; and Mike Greenwell of Versailles. Although no one claimed the Million Dollar prize, Phil Caccamise from Lexington was closest to the Hole and won \$500 in cash, an Adams Golf Tom Watson Wedge from Pro Golf, a dinner for two at the Glass Garden Restaurant, a car wash kit and a dozen golf balls from Ashland/Valvoline, and a special golf package from The Bull. Second place went to Don DePriest of Lexington, third place to Dennis Ridenour of Lexington, and fourth place to Mike Greenwell of Versailles. The money raised from this annual fundraiser provides scholarships and grants for students and teachers to participate in exchange programs, and provides support for activities and programs with Lexington’s four sister cities.

A special thank you to all the sponsors who made the contest a success:

Kentucky Utilities	Billy’s Bar B Q	Fifth-Third Bank	Dudley’s
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The Lexington Herald-Leader	Kentucky Dept. of State Parks	TGI Friday’s	Green’s Toyota
Purdon’s Rental Sales	Alfalfa Restaurant	Chick fil A	Bluegrass Hospitality Group
Ashland/Valvoline	Ruby Tuesday	WKYT-TV	Lakeside Golf Course
Hyatt Regency Lexington	Rafferty’s	Barney Miller’s	Outback Steakhouse
WVLK Radio	Applecreek Bar B Q	The Bull	Firehouse Subs

WINNERS ANNOUNCED FOR THE 2009 HIGH SCHOOL ART COMPETITION

Owen Duross, a student from Henry Clay High School, received a \$250 first place award from Central Bank after being selected as the local 2009 winner of the twentieth annual Lexington Sister Cities Young Artists Competition. The theme, “Your Path to Peace,” was carried out by students enrolled in Grades 9-12 at all Lexington high schools. Libby Guth of Lafayette received \$150 as second place winner, and Brad Carter from Lafayette received \$100 for third place. All entries were on exhibit at the Central Bank Gallery from February 20 through March 13, 2009. The winners were presented their awards at an opening reception to kick off the exhibition. Duross’ artwork was then entered into the Worldwide Sister Cities International Competition, and was displayed at their annual convention in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The International competition was open to high school artists in 1,500 Sister Cities in the United States and their 2,500 Sister City affiliates throughout the world.



LEXINGTON/CALVADOS INTERN PROGRAM

The intern exchange program between Lexington and Calvados continued in 2009 with three French students working in Lexington and two Lexington students working in Calvados for the summer: Alexandre Vandevivere, a student at the Normandy Business School in France did his internship at the Lexington Crowne Plaza Hotel; Lea Masson, studying at the Graduate School of Agronomy and Food Industry in Nancy, France, worked for the summer with the Smith Management Group; and Renaud Gras, a student at IAE in Caen, worked part time for the 2010 FEI World Equestrian Games and part time for the Kentucky Equine Research. Gabriella Bene, a University of Kentucky student studying French and International Studies, and Transylvania University student Caroline Miller, studying French and Art History, both interned in Calvados for the summer. Gabriella worked at Asti 14 in Caen and Caroline at the Chateau de Falaise.

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY TEACHING PROGRAM

Patrick Conlon, a student from the University of Kentucky was awarded the 2009-2010 elementary school teaching assistantship position in Deauville. He is teaching English conversation classes to pre-school and elementary school children in Deauville. Patrick is a linguistics major with a minor in political science and international studies. Students interested in applying for this position in the future should contact the Office of International Affairs at the University of Kentucky – (859) 257-8139.

HALFWAY TO ST. PATRICK’S DAY

The annual Edward T. Houlihan “Halfway to St. Patrick’s Day” fundraiser was held September 12th at O’Neill’s Irish Pub. Entertainment was provided by Liam’s Fancy Irish music and the McTeggart Irish dancers. Guests enjoyed lamb stew & brown bread prepared by Chef Mary Parlanti, a silent auction and guest bartenders. Proceeds from this event are used for Sister Cities student scholarships.

JAPAN YOUTH EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Five Lexington students visited Lexington’s Sister City, Shinhidaka on the island of Hokkaido, in June on the annual Sister Cities Japan Youth Exchange Program. Accompanying the students were retired teacher Chuck Gnas and his wife Maria. Participating students were: Savannah Wafford from Jessie Clark Middle, Brody Stevens from Bryan Station Middle, Ben Swanson and Olivia Layton from Winburn Middle School, and Genevieve Borrowdale-Cox from Sayre Middle School. The group stayed with host families during their two week visit, toured the area and was able to learn about the Japanese culture. In March, seven students from Shinhidaka came to Lexington and stayed with host families to learn the American culture. In addition to attending school, they also toured the State Capital, Rebecca Ruth Candy Factory, the Kentucky Horse Park, the Kentucky History Museum, the Lexington Library and Fire Department. Three officials from Shinhidaka Town Hall accompanied the group.

IRELAND STUDENT EXCHANGE

Seven students from County Kildare came to Lexington during July on the Sister Cities Ireland Student Exchange Program. Mary Doyle accompanied the students. Eleven Lexington students returned to Ireland for a ten day visit. Participating from Lexington were: Joey Sykes, Emily Rayens and Lauren Jacoby from Lafayette; Marian Turner, Anne Wright, Maura Frank and Madison Smith from Lexington Catholic; Hank Lynch, Daniel Hayes and Duncan Naylor from Sts. Peter & Paul, and Clare Holl from SCAPA. Tom Parlanti, a teacher from The Lexington School, accompanied the group to Ireland. During their stay with host families, the students were able to experience the Irish home life and culture.

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY/ NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF IRELAND MAYNOOTH

Professor Sue Roberts from the Department of Geography at UK spent a month in Ireland at NUI Maynooth as a visiting researcher. During her visit with Proinnsias Breathnach at NUI, a Professor exchange was arranged. Professor Stanley Brunn from UK taught Geography and Religion at NUI Maynooth for the 2009 fall semester, and Professor Dennis Pringle from NUI taught Medical Geography and GIS to UK undergraduates for the same semester. The two schools are hoping to develop more exchange programs in the future.

LEXINGTON-DEAUVILLE HIGH SCHOOL EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Seventeen students from Lexington high schools participated in the 2009 Lexington-Deauville High School Exchange Program. The students traveled to Deauville in June and stayed with host families for four weeks. Eighteen French students returned to Lexington in July for a four week stay. Lexington students participating in the program were Kristen Grewe from Dunbar; Kelsey Truman from Bryan Station; Shelby Fister-Mesch, Meredith Daugherty, Catherine Borland, Janet Schnurr and Maggie Mills from Lexington Catholic; Chelsea Hardin, Savannah Heltzel, Haley Pierce and Caitlin Nichols from Lafayette; Emily Talbott from Henry Clay; Ben McGrath from Sayre; Leigha Lockwood-Nelson from Tates Creek; and Isabel Yon, Julia Pace and Gwyndolyn Carpenter from George Rogers Clark in Winchester. In addition to the many things the students were able to visit in France, they enjoyed a trip to Caen and the American Cemetery in Normandy; and a trip to Paris to see the many sights and visit the Asteriz Park. The program is designed to provide students an opportunity to live in France to improve their French speaking skills while experiencing the culture.



NEWMARKET STUDENTS VISIT LEXINGTON



Ten students from Newmarket College in England made a visit to Lexington in October. During their stay, they were able to tour the Kentucky Horse Park, Keeneland, Georgetown College, the State Capitol in Frankfort, and enjoyed many other activities with their host families. Two of the students attend the British Racing School in Newmarket, and were able to attend Chris McCarron’s North American Racing Academy for two days. Hosting the students were Kristen Grewe from Dunbar; Lauren Huser from Bryan Station; Genevieve Borrowdale-Cox, Clay Bales and Claire Simon from Sayre; Emily Rayens and Ann Dickson from Lafayette; Anne Wright and Elizabeth Nugent from Lexington Catholic; and Eleana Thompson from Henry Clay. Neil Fisher and Jenny Mills, teachers from Newmarket College accompanied the students to Lexington and were hosted by Hugh and Gail Bennett, co-chairs of the Lexington-Newmarket committee.

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY/UNIVERSITY OF CAEN EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Maiko Inoue, a student from the University of Kentucky, was the recipient of the 2009 fall semester Sister Cities Scholarship at the University of Caen in France. Maiko, from Lexington, is a hospitality management major with a minor in business and French. Courtney Cox, a UK student from Falmouth, KY, is the 2010 spring semester recipient at the University of Caen. Courtney has a double major in international studies and French. This scholarship is available to undergraduate and graduate students who have completed at least three years of college-level French. Anyone interested should contact the Study Abroad and Exchange Program in the Office of International Affairs at the University of Kentucky (859) 257-8139. Alice Quinones from the University of Caen was awarded the 2009/2010 Sister Cities scholarship at the University of Kentucky. She is currently in Lexington living at Smith Hall.